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May 27, 1997 LB 387

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers, to speak on the Wehrbein amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, let me ask Senator Kristensen a question.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Kristensen, can you respond?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I'll try.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Kristensen, would you be willing to appropriate \$5 million to this fund and expand it so that it includes women, at all campuses, and everything else be the same? We can...I gave us the statute, we can amend the statute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yeah, you...I think you, I think you can amend the statute. But you're asking me philosophically would I do that?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Where do I get the...where do I get the 5 million from?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: From the General Fund. We got all this money waiting for a tax cut. We laid it together in a slush fund that they call some kind of contingence. I don't even know the names of all of it. The state is awash in money right now, and this would not be an ongoing appropriation. One time, and then the income from it supports this program. Would you be willing to do that? Senator Hillman, don't go too far. Yes or no, Senator Kristensen?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, I'm...you obviously hit me with a policy choice I haven't thought about. Five million is probably rich for my, for my blood at this point. Would I put some money into it? Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: How much?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I haven't...I don't know.